

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending and claims 8-12 and 18 are withdrawn from consideration. By this Amendment, claim 19 is canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

I. The Restriction/Election Requirement is Improper

The June 30, 2002 Restriction/Election Requirement required the claims to be restricted in the following manner: Group I - claims 1-7, 13-16 and 17 drawn to a device; and Group II - claims 8-12 and 18 drawn to a method.

The Restriction/Election Requirement asserted that the groups above are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. This assertion is respectfully traversed.

In particular, MPEP §1850 Article C states that the method for determining unity of invention under PCT Rule 13.1 should be construed as permitting, in particular, the inclusion of any one of the following combination of claims of different categories in the same international application: (a) in addition to an independent claim for a given product, an independent claim for a process specially adapted for the manufacture of the said product.

Here independent claim 8 is a method for manufacturing a thin film transistor of independent claim 1. Independent claim 18 is a method for manufacturing a display device having a thin-film transistor of independent claim 17. Moreover, claims 8 and 18 recite a method adapted for the manufacture of the product claimed in independent claim 1 and 17. Accordingly, a unity of invention exists between claims 1, 8, 17 and 18. Thus, withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is respectfully requested.

II. The Claims Define Patentable Subject Matter

The Office Action rejects claim 19 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Son (U.S. Patent No. 6,023,088). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

In particular, claim 19 has been canceled, and thus the rejection with respect to claim 19 is now moot. The Office Action has indicated that claims 1-7 and 13-17 are allowed. Accordingly, this application is in condition for allowance.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-18 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,


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